The Department of the Environment
City and County of San Francisco

Annual Report 2012

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SF Environment
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A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

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Message from the Director

The San Francisco Department of the Environment is pleased to present its 2012 annual report. This report highlights the accomplishments and programming that made 2012 another exciting and innovative year here at the department.

Thanks to leadership from Mayor Lee and the Board of Supervisors, and support from San Francisco businesses and residents, we continued to make great strides this year. In addition to being named the Cleantech Capital of North America and a top city for green jobs, San Francisco celebrated an 80 percent waste diversion rate, the highest of any city in North America. We continue to be a leader in the sustainability movement, having successfully banned single use plastic bags, published the nation's first *Pest Prevention by Design Guidelines*, while being recognized for the world's best green building policy. These achievements are made possible through partnerships with our fellow city agencies. The city's greenhouse gas emissions are 14.5% lower than 1990 levels; another key indicator that our work is having an impact.

And that's not the only indicator; sustainability is good for our economy. Our programs and policies continued to prove it in 2012. The EnergyWatch and Boiler Replacement programs helped drive the energy efficiency market, while our zero waste polices continue to spur emerging, waste reduction businesses. In total our department has supported 2198 jobs in San Francisco and this number will continue to grow as we create demand for new businesses and continue to help existing businesses become more energy efficient, reduce waste and generate renewable energy.

Together, we are creating a city that allows our residents to thrive while ensuring there will be a prosperous future. The Department of the Environment looks forward to working with our local elected leaders, businesses, and residents to continue creating the policies and programs that have earned us the title of Greenest City in North America.

Sincerely,

Melanie Nutter

Director, San Francisco Department of the Environment

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Our Mission

The San Francisco Department of the Environment creates visionary policies and innovative programs that promote social equity and the green economy, protect human health, and lead the way toward a sustainable future. We put our mission into action by mobilizing communities and providing the resources needed to safeguard our homes, our city, and ultimately our planet.

What We Do

The San Francisco Department of the Environment (SF Environment) creates visionary policies and innovative programs to improve, enhance, and preserve San Francisco's urban and natural environment and ensure our city's long-term sustainability. By developing cutting edge yet practical wide-ranging environmental programs, fostering groundbreaking legislation, working collaboratively with key partners and educating the public on comprehensive sustainability practices, SF Environment makes it easy for everyone in San Francisco to protect their environment.

SF Environment is a one-stop resource for people who want to learn about how they can access resources to protect the environment locally. Each year, SF Environment handles inquiries from elected officials, other city departments, businesses, and the public. SF Environment is responsible for providing expert information about environmental initiatives, programs, policies and incentives to the media, City agencies, the Board of Supervisors and the public.

SF Environment's EcoCenter and website—www.sfenvironment.org—have the latest departmental and Environment Commission news and archives as well as easy-to-read fact sheets about a wealth of environmental topics, many of which are in multiple languages including Spanish, Chinese, Russian and Tagalog. The website serves as a portal to a range of environmental issues and contains links to other city agencies and environmental non-profit organizations.

Understanding that real change comes from face-to-face conversations and engagement, we work in every neighborhood in San Francisco going door to door and participating in street fairs, farmer's markets, concerts and other events, in an effort to get information on environmental protection out to the people who want and need it most.

Clean Transportation

The Clean Transportation Program envisions a San Francisco where car ownership is the exception rather than the rule, and where convenient, carbon-free mobility options are readily available and highly used by residents, commuters and visitors. As a step toward that vision, the city has set a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector in San Francisco to 20% below 1990 levels. Additionally, we aim to enhance the City's livability by improving the environmental conditions and experience of all modes of mobility for every San Francisco resident and visitor. We achieve this by promoting clean transportation programs that reduce congestion, improve safety for all modes of mobility, enhance air quality and encourage healthy travel.

Accomplishments

- Worked with 3,000 businesses that have a commuter benefits program for employees, 40% of which implemented a program due to the Commuter Benefits Ordinance
- Assisted 3,600 City and County of San Francisco employees who are utilizing the Pre-Tax Commuter Benefits program Commuter Benefits program monthly.
- Supported enrollment of 500 businesses in the Emergency Ride Home Program, representing 90,000 commuters.
- Registered over 350 San Francisco Unified School District families in SchoolPool to walk-, bike-, transit- and car-pool to school
- Installed 75 public electric vehicle charging stations in 20 city-owned garages and parking lots
- Assisted with the installation of 89 electric vehicle charging stations for residents at 36 multifamily buildings in San Francisco as a demonstration project with California Energy Commission
- Spearheaded effort, in collaboration with Charge Across Town, to host EV Week, a community event engaging consumers, local businesses and employers in an educational expo on electric vehicles in September 2012.
- Accepted the Most EV-Ready Community award on behalf of the City of San Francisco from the Bay Area Climate Collaborative.
- Received San Francisco's Clean Cities Coalition recognition for reducing petroleum consumption in the city's transportation sector.
    - Top Award for Per-Capita Petroleum Displacement
    - Top Award for Greatest Displacement of Petroleum Using Electricity

Climate Change

Climate change is the most pressing environmental issue of the 21st century. SF Environment is committed to developing and implementing policies and practices that protect our residents, businesses and visitors from the worst impacts of climate change. Since climate change is a complex issue, SF Environment works with experts and other city agencies to develop effective strategies to reduce emissions.

Consistent with the scientific community's recommendations to reduce emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050 to stabilize our climate system, San Francisco has officially adopted ambitious emission reduction goals, including 20% reduction below 1990 levels for 2012, 25% by 2017, 40% by 2025 and 80% by 2050.

Accomplishments

- Managed the Department Climate Action Plan process for all agencies and departments of the City and County of San Francisco. 54 agencies and departments reported their carbon footprint and sustainability metrics and will continue to on an annual basis. The city's operational carbon footprint was reduced by 12% in 2012 from the baseline year of 2005.
- Awarded $30,000 through the San Francisco Carbon Fund to Friends of the Urban Forest for being a tree planting partner for the Urban Orchard Program. An additional $70,000 will be granted for projects in 2013
- Produced an Energy Efficient Events Guide to promote carbon neutral events in partnership with the Environmental Defense Fund's Climate Core Program and the 34th America's Cup.
- Convened five Community Climate Action Advisory Panels with key city stakeholders to gather feedback to support our citywide Climate Action Strategy Update. Panels included:
  - Gray to Green, Urban Greening and Climate Change
  - New Century Transportation, Moving the Future Forward
  - Energy Independence, Global Technologies and Local Solutions
  - The Business Council
  - Economic Prosperity, Jobs, & Environmental Justice
- Initiated citywide climate adaptation collaboration production to design a city plan.

Photo by Luminalt

Energy

Since over 50% of the City's greenhouse gas emissions come from buildings, SF Environment's Energy program targets energy use in private sector buildings; both commercial and residential. The primary goal is to reduce energy use in these buildings through efficiency, and to install renewable resources, all in an effort to achieve as close to zero net energy buildings as possible.

SF Environment has made great strides establishing Energy Watch, one of the largest city-run energy efficiency programs in California, funded by PG&E ratepayers.

Zero Net Building

A zero net energy building will use energy from the local grid. But unlike typical homes, a zero net energy building will incorporate both passive and active building design principles (using currently available technology), be highly efficient, and draw enough power from onsite or near site renewable energy installations to cover all its energy needs, resulting in net zero annual energy use.

Accomplishments

- Published the Zero Net Energy Homes Report which lays out a pathway to maximize energy efficiency in San Francisco.
- Established the EnergySavvy web portal, which allows residents to assess their home inefficiencies and identify potential savings with upgrades.
- Cosponsored the report, "The Value of Green Labels in the CA Housing Market" which found that homes with green labels are worth 9% more than those without.
- Assisted 1,527 businesses and multifamily properties with through the EnergyWatch program resulting in over $6 million in utility savings and over 15,000 tons of carbon dioxide reduction. $6 million dollars of incentives were given out in 2012.
- Launched the San Francisco Home Improvement & Performance program I which has provided energy retrofits to 225 residential homes making them an average of 35% more energy efficient.

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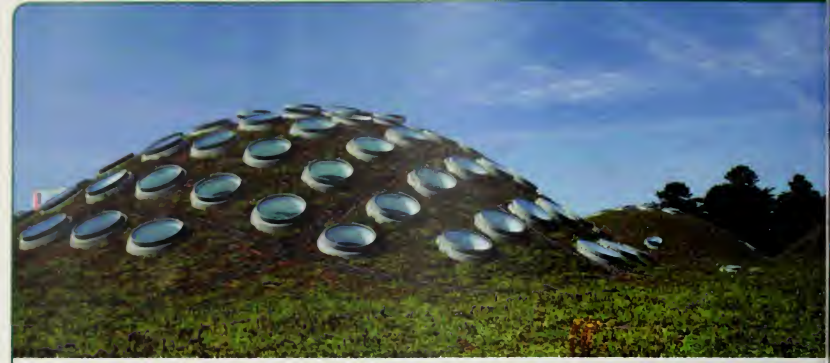
Energy Accomplishments, continued

- Completed the Boiler Replacement program, providing $1.7 million in incentives to replace outdated and inefficient boilers on 261 projects resulting in a savings of 240,000 therms a year and 1,200 tons of carbon dioxide annually.
- Supported the installation of nearly 3,500 solar projects with a capacity of over 21 Megawatts through our SF Energy Map
- Completed US Department of Energy "Solar America Cities" grant by implementing innovative financing mechanisms including solar group buys with local businesses (Solar@ Work) and schools (Solar@School).
- Joined a a regional consortium that was awarded a US Department of Energy "SunShot" grant to reduce the soft costs of solar installations through adoption of best practices for permitting, interconnection, and financing.
- Provided funding support for two solar water heating installations at Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation affordable housing properties.
- Worked with PG&E to help market the CSI-Thermal program to multi-family and commercial properties in San Francisco. As a result 56 solar water heating systems (26,305 sq ft of solar collectors) in San Francisco have been installed or began development since the California Solar Initiative (CSI) – Thermal incentive went into effect in 2010. These installations represent $3.88 million in private investment in local renewable energy, including $1.3 million in CSI-Thermal incentives, and will save 90,300 therms of natural gas every year, and 480 metric tons of CO_2 emissions per year.
- Lead the Mayor's Renewable Energy Taskforce to complete and finalize its recommendations report for how San Francisco can meet its 100% renewable energy goal.
- Participated in the launch of the Bay Area Regional Energy Network, of which San Francisco will receive a portion of a $26 million grant approved by the California Public Utility Commission.
- Developed the What's-Your-Watt program launched in January 2013 to allow residents the ability to check out a watt meter at the library and learn how to reduce their energy use at home. The program was funded by PG&E and Wells Fargo Bank and the implementation partner is the San Francisco Public Library.



Green Building

The over-arching goal of our Green Building program is to ensure that all new and existing buildings in San Francisco are built and operated according to third-party verified standards such as LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) GreenPoint Rated, or EnergyStar. Our role in this far-reaching goal is to serve as the technical resource for standards setting and project development, to facilitate and stimulate on-going training for a wide range of building professionals, and to educate and build support for green building policies with the public, tenants, and building owners.

Accomplishments

- Issued bond financing for the first GreenFinanceSF project, the city's commercial PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) program at historic Pier 1.
- Completed and tracked energy benchmarking for 611 private sector buildings, totaling 111 million sq ft (65% of affected stock) and 350 municipal buildings, through the Existing Commercial Buildings Energy Ordinance. Of which one outcome was that municipal buildings used 1.1% less energy in 2011 than in 2009 saving ratepayers $1 million per year.
- Partnered with the Assessor-Recorder's office to launch the first program to record green labels in county property records
- Partnered with the US Green Building Council to host the International GreenBuild 2012 conference, attended by more than 35,000 green building stakeholders. SF Environment's staff were featured in 6 conference sessions, highlighting the city's leadership in green building codes, environmental policy, and sustainable facilities.

Environmental Justice

SF Environment's Environmental Justice program works to promote environmental sustainability and economic opportunities in the city's low-income neighborhoods. We provide grant assistance and technical support to non-profit groups to help prepare workers for employment in the city's green economy. Since 2001 the Environmental Justice Program has granted more than $11 million to community-based organizations and non-profit groups dedicated to promoting renewable energy, energy conservation and efficiency, food security, air quality and environmental justice in San Francisco's Bayview Hunters Point and Potrero neighborhoods.

Driving Demand in the Green Economy

SF Environment programs and policies support emerging green economies in San Francisco while providing new opportunities for San Francisco workers. This past year ***Forbes Magazine*** recognized San Francisco as the top city in the U.S for green jobs, and city policies and initiatives are leading the way. Workers in the residential energy efficiency upgrade sector took advantage of our Home Improvement and Performance Program as they saw an increase in projects and labor hours. Our zero waste policies continue to drive reuse and recycling industries, as more businesses and special events need waste reduction services. The City's support of job growth in the sustainability sector continues to transform our local economy and helps meet our greenhouse gas reduction targets to provide healthier places to live and work. Workers across the City—from Bayview Hunters Point to the Financial District—benefit from new jobs that utilize a range of skill and education levels.

Accomplishments

- Launched the Healthy Homes Project working with over 400 residents in southeast San Francisco to assess and address health inequalities for families. This program is working with families to identify opportunities for integrated pest management and healthy cleaning supplies.
- Received a $400,000 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to support brownfield site assessments in Bayview Hunters Point with the goal of developing the Blue Greenway, a 13-mile waterfront corridor that will improve access to green space in this underserved community.

Toxics Reduction

San Francisco was the first city in the country to adopt the Precautionary Principle as a foundation for its environmental and public health policies, requiring city government to seek out the safest alternatives when making choices ranging from products and services to building designs and landscape management. The Toxics Reduction Program implements the Precautionary Principle most directly through its programs in green purchasing, green business, and integrated pest management. Program staff are also actively involved in regional, national and international policy efforts to reduce toxic pollution and exposures in the San Francisco area.

In addition, the program coordinates a wide-range of hazardous waste collection and recycling services for unwanted or expired hazardous household products. The program advocates producer responsibility, requiring manufacturers to become financially responsible for collection and recycling of their products, through supporting product stewardship legislation at the local, state and federal level.

Precautionary Principle

The Precautionary Principle states that if an activity raises threats of harm, precautionary measures should be taken even if cause and effect relationships are not fully established scientifically.

Accomplishments

- Launched and completed the "Don't Take the Bait" program during which 87 of the 130 local San Francisco stores selling this type of product pledged to eliminate the sale of dangerous rodenticide pellets.
- Assisted in the tracking and collection of almost 3 million pounds of hazardous waste from residences since 2010.
- Conducted outreach to shade tree mechanics and facilitated the collection of nearly 110,000 gallons of used oil recycled since 2010.
- Assisted in the tracking and collection of over 315,000 pounds of hazardous waste from businesses since 2010.
- Launched the Healthy Nail Salon program by conducting outreach to all 223 salons in San Francisco. Nine salons have completed the program and 14 more on track to complete the program by the end of 2013.
- Produced and released the Janitorial Green Cleaning curriculum to support best greening practices for janitorial services in San Francisco. The curriculum was created with U.S Environmental Protection Agency funding and will be disseminated across by the agency to other jurisdictions
- Launched the first ever industry sponsored Safe Medicine Disposal program and collected over 10,000 pounds of medicine through 13 independent pharmacies and 5 police stations.
- Published the Pest Prevention by Design manual; the first of its kind in the country. The manual outlines opportunities for pest prevention in building design.

Urban Forestry

SF Environment's Urban Forest program promotes a healthier, sustainable urban forest in San Francisco by implementing the Urban Forestry Council Ordinance, providing education programs and information on tree management, and developing innovative funding strategies for the City's urban forest. Additionally, the program drives legislation and serves as an information hub to other agencies and the general public to improve the health of the urban forest and increase its benefits to urban residents.

The Urban Agriculture program facilitates and encourages increasing local food production and opportunities for urban gardening throughout San Francisco.

Accomplishments

Urban Forestry

- Provided data and information on existing policy to the Planning Department to support the development of the Urban Forest Master Plan.
- Assisted in the publication of the Annual Urban Forest report.
- Expanded the Urban Orchards program and developed a program partnership with Friends of the Urban Forest to plant 200 publicly accessible fruit trees as part of the SF Carbon Fund grant.

Urban Agriculture

- Led the development of the Alemany Farm Management Plan, which was adopted by the Parks & Recreation Department and creates a new management model for communal urban farms on public land.
- Participated in the City Administrator's office Urban Agriculture working group, which developed key policy area.

Zero Waste

The Zero Waste program has instituted a wide array of policies and convenient services to achieve the City's goal of achieving zero waste by 2020. The Zero Waste program encourages all sectors (municipal, commercial and residential) to comply with the city's waste policies and use services properly. The program's primary focus is securing city-wide compliance with the Mandatory Recycling and Composting Ordinance. Financial incentives for generators and service providers are continually updated to enhance waste diversion opportunities. The program promotes waste prevention and environmentally preferable purchasing. Zero Waste Program staff also continue to advocate for local and state legislation increasing consumer and producer responsibility.

Accomplishments

- Began implementation of the Checkout Bag Ordinance on October 1, 2012, an amendment to 2009's plastic bag ban, which affects all retailers with the exception of restaurants.
- Achieved compliance with State Assembly Bill 341, which requires multi-family buildings and businesses achieve a landfill diversion rate of 75% by 2020.
- Achieved the milestone diversion rate of 80%.
- Established composting in 1,500 and recycling in 1,000 apartment buildings in accordance with the Mandatory Recycling and Composting Ordinance.
- Registered 75 new debris transporters and 3 new facilities under Construction Demolition Recycling Ordinance.
- Provided technical assistance to 34th Annual America's Cup's to develop and implement a Zero Waste plan which achieved 98% waste diversion.

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Zero Waste Accomplishments, continued

Awarded Zero Waste community grants to:

- The Supportive Housing Employment Collaborative ($25,000) will offer formerly homeless adults the opportunity to participate in a paid Recycling and Environmental Awareness Internship Program which will train interns in environmental, waste management and community outreach practices. This program will divert waste by implementing recycling and composting programs in supportive housing sites where the interns reside and from events within San Francisco. **http://www.chp-sf.org/**
- San Francisco Clean City Coalition ($38,000) will continue to operate a wood furniture refurbishing and pallet repair program that will divert waste from landfill. This program will develop a free standing new green business that hires from populations with multiple barriers to employment. **http://www.sfcleancity.com/**
- Garden for the Environment ($38,000) will offer free backyard composting and vermicomposting workshops for residents of San Francisco, conduct the Gardening Composting Educator Training Program and a school field trip program, while ensuring that San Francisco residents continue to divert organic material from landfill through backyard composting. **http://www.gardenfortheenvironment.org/**
- San Francisco Conservation Corp ($24,000) will provide greening services for events in San Francisco to increase awareness of recycling and composting practices amongst attendees, producers and corps members, helping events in San Francisco get closer to zero waste and comply with the Mandatory Recycling and Composting Ordinance. **http://www.sfcc.org/**
- Scroungers for Reuseable Art Parts ($15,000) will increase the diversion of materials suitable for arts and educational purposes while promoting creative reuse - through outreach to businesses and residents, providing free pick-ups, maintaining a materials depot for the public, and education to school children and adults at field trips, workshops and community events. **http://www.scrap-sf.org/**
- Loved Twice ($10,000) will establish donation collection sites and clothing drives for baby clothes throughout San Francisco in order to both divert textiles from landfill and clothe newborns in need with quality recycled baby clothing for the first year of life. Loved Twice works with social workers to identify new mothers who are in need, particularly at risk mothers experiencing extreme challenges including homelessness, poverty, violence and teen pregnancy. Through this program Loved Twice intends to divert 5 tons of baby clothes from landfill. **http://lovedtwice.org/**

Outreach and Education

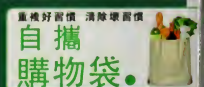
SF Environment's outreach and communications program supports the goals and services of all department programs by providing clear, concise, and objective information about policies and initiatives. SF Environment provides environmental educational resources to a wide variety of San Francisco constituencies, and strives to reach the diverse communities of San Francisco in strategic and thoughtful ways.

Cultural Competency and Multi-Lingual Communications

SF Environment engages all communities throughout the city to ensure that residents and businesses are receiving relevant information about our programs and the environment. At the core of this commitment is an effort to reduce the disparities gap in environmental awareness through multi-lingual education and an understanding of cultural and behavioral diversity in the city. To that end, SF Environment relies on a diverse communications team as well as tactics to reach as many people, in as many languages as possible. Further, we strive to partner with community organizations to increase the reach of our messaging while developing a better understanding of what matters to our audiences.

Some highlights from 2012:

- Translated all of our press releases, education and outreach handouts in multiple languages.
- Launched neighborhood specific outreach campaigns for zero waste and energy efficiency.
- Developed a multi-lingual and culturally relevant outreach campaign for the Checkout Bag Ordinance.
- Participated in over 100 community events throughout the city, all with multi-lingual speakers.
- Created all student factsheets in Spanish and Chinese for our school education program.
- Continued to hire multi-lingual SF residents from underserved neighborhoods for the Environment Now program.



Online

The SF Environment digital team launched a completely redesigned website featuring ten times more content than the previous website. This robust and scalable platform is also user friendly for staff, meaning we can update content rapidly as needed. The dynamic site allows SF Environment to leverage all of our social media platforms for cohesive communication that is both timely and responsive. Finally, the new site allows for multi-media as well as multi-language content.

RecycleWhere? a state of the art digital online tool, was launched to help all Bay Area residents learn how to safely dispose of their waste items, from old sneakers to dead batteries and chicken bones. The tool is set up to not only provide information to its users, but also to inform SF Environment about items people are trying to dispose. This tool will optimize our collection programs in 2013. In its first month the tool, has received 800 unique visitors, 50% of whom are here in San Francisco with another 50% from across the Bay Area and around the world.

EcoCenter

SF Environment's EcoCenter at 11 Grove is the City's one-stop shop for information on its environmental policies, programs and services. The EcoCenter is a community meeting space, an art gallery, movie house, environmental lecture hall and recently, even a performance venue.

Over the past 4 years the EcoCenter has presented more than 18 art installations including SCRAP's annual art show and work by artists from Recology's Artist-in-Residence program. Guest curators from UC Davis, Altered Barbie and the African American Cultural Center have produced a range of exhibits from photography to sculpture. Quarterly art openings have a dedicated following and include good food and great music. In 2011, SF Environment was proud to host Epiphany Productions Trolley Dances, which drew more than 1,200 people to 15 performances over the course of three days.

In addition to a range of art events, the EcoCenter hosts community groups as varied as the Women's Initiative for Self Employment, the Mongolian Cultural Club and the Alliance for Climate Education.

The Third Thursday film series and monthly brown bags are popular community events, and the annual celebration of Park(ing) Day has become a renowned neighborhood event over the years.

Education

SF Environment's Environmental Education program serves as catalyst for change in the community, by offering award-winning projects that serve over 225 public and private schools in San Francisco, annually reaching 20,000 students and 1,000 teachers. The Environmental Education staff promotes positive behavior change that increases composting and recycling at schools, protects our water from pollution, inspires sound environmental stewardship and helps stop litter.

Environment Now

Environment Now's primary goal is to promote workforce readiness and eco-literacy through a combination of classroom workshops and practical, hands-on, project-focused work experiences. Participants work closely with SF Environment staff and engage in a variety of projects and outreach campaigns. Environment Now projects effectively support SF Environment's programs to reach multicultural, multilingual neighborhoods in the City, and help to promote SF Environment's programs in energy conservation, zero waste, urban forestry, toxics reduction, clean air transportation and environmental justice. In 2012 SF Environment's first two-year cohort of eight participants graduated the program.

Events

Each year, SF Environment outreach and Environment Now staff, interns and volunteers engage residents, businesses and community organizations at events and in high traffic areas such as parks and transit hubs. In 2012, our staff developed innovative and interactive strategies, such as transporting our materials for events on an electric cargo bike and using it to power press conferences and even harnessing the power of Karaoke to engage constituents.

Volunteers

The SF Environment volunteer team, now totaling 518 active members, participated in 75 community events in 2012 and supported several other special projects. Projects included supporting the International Green Building Conference, distributing canvass bags at several events as part of the "Ban Bag Campaign" as well as organizing outreach booths and giving presentations at the Mexican Consulate. In the upcoming year, the volunteer team will take part in expanding outreach efforts at additional Latin American consulates, work with the Department of Public Work's Community Clean Team, and partner with Friends of the Urban Forest to plant over 200 fruit trees.

Moving Forward

Friends of Launch

Friends of SF Environment, a non-profit dedicated to promoting our work, was launched in 2012. Friends will conduct advocacy, education and fundraising efforts to support SF Environment's programs, policies and alliances and help ensure that San Francisco is the greenest city in the world.

Friends shares SF Environment's vision of a City where businesses, residents, and municipal departments work together to ensure a carbon neutral environment where all citizens have access to clean air, clean water, and green space.

1455 Market

Preparation and planning began in 2012 for our move from 11 Grove St. to the 12th floor of 1455 Market. With 24,000 ft2of office space, we will be able to showcase the latest materials and technologies in energy efficiency and green building, while creating more collaborative space for our staff and community. Our new location will provide new opportunities to engage policy makers, residents, businesses, and visiting delegations from around the world.

Biodiversity Program

Following the adoption of a biodiversity resolution by the Commission on the Environment, SF Environment updated portions of our website to include an expanded description of San Francisco's biodiversity heritage and habitats. We secured a limited amount of funding to hire a temporary biodiversity coordinator, with the goal of initiating a biodiversity program and developing a biodiversity plan for the City.

Commision on the Environment

The mission of the Commission on the Environment is to improve, enhance, and preserve the environment and to promote San Francisco's long-term environmental sustainability as set forth in Section 4.118 of the City Charter. The Commission on the Environment sets policy for the Department of the Environment and advises the Mayor, Board of Supervisors, and other City departments on environmental matters. Appointed by the Mayor, the seven-member commission develops policies and programs on a wide range of environmental topics including zero waste, toxics reduction, environmental justice, clean air, energy efficiency, green building, habitat restoration, commute alternatives, greenhouse gas reduction, green jobs, and the city's urban forest. The Commission's office is located at 11 Grove Street, San Francisco, California, 94102. In March 2013, the Commission's office will be located at 1455 Market Street, 12th Floor.

Commission Membership

Matt Tuchow, President; Ruth Gravanis, Vice President; Joshua Arce, Angelo King, Operations Committee Chair; Alan Mok, Heather Stephenson; Johanna Wald, Policy Committee Chair.

Commissioners Leaving Office in 2012

Special thanks to Commission President Emeritus Matt Tuchow who served on the Commission from January 15, 2008 to December 5, 2012 and on the Commission Operations Committee from January 22, 2008 to July 21, 2010 and to Commissioner Emeritus Rahul Prakash who served on the Commission from August 3, 2010 to January 3, 2012 and on the Commission Policy Committee from October 8, 2010 to January 3, 2012.

Meetings

All meetings of the Commission on the Environment and its committees are open to the public. The full Commission meets bimonthly on the fourth Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. in January, March, May, July, September and November. Meetings are held at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place, Room 416, in the City and County of San Francisco unless otherwise noted.

The Commission's Policy Committee meets monthly on the second Monday at 5:00 p.m. with the exception of the fourth Monday in October. Meetings are held at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place, Room 421 in the City and County of San Francisco unless otherwise noted.

As of September 2012, The Commission's Operations Committee meets quarterly on the first Wednesday in November and the second Wednesday in February, May, and August at 5:00 p.m. Meetings are held at 1455 Market Street in the City and County of San Francisco unless otherwise noted.

Background on the Commission

In carrying out its mission, the Commission and its two committees engage in three general types of activities:

1. providing oversight of and strategic advice on the work of the Department of the Environment and its staff;
2. generating and reviewing new policies, practices and ideas relating to sustainability for consideration by the staff, the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors and by other city agencies as relevant; and
3. providing public outreach and education.

The Commission carries out its responsibilities principally by reviewing and commenting on oral and written presentations from the staff at both full Commission meetings and at committee meetings.

The Commission is directly responsible for a number of San Francisco's most well known environmental initiatives including its ban on City purchase of single-serve water bottles and its groundbreaking ordinance on check-out bags. Other major initiatives that the Commission has spearheaded include the Department's green jobs program, its Climate Action Plan, and the City's mandatory composting requirement. As the result of these initiatives, in 2012:

- 2198 jobs were supported by San Francisco Department of the Environment's policies and programs in areas such as zero waste, energy efficiency and renewable energy.
- 1.6 million tons of waste were diverted from landfill and San Francisco achieved an 80% landfill diversion, making it #1 in the country for a city our size and saving the equivalent of almost two Golden Gate Bridges worth of trash.
- Over 50 cities around the country have adopted plastic bag bans of their own.
- 267 San Francisco homeowners, including 194 low-income families as well as 6 businesses and non-profits were able to install solar panels thanks to the GoSolarSF program, providing 567 kilowatts of new solar capacity in the City.
- San Francisco's greenhouse gas emissions are nearly 14.5% below 1990 levels. We are very close to meeting the City's goal of reducing emissions 20% below those levels by 2012 and have exceeded emission reduction goals set by both the United Nations and the State of California, even as our population has grown substantially.
- Providing suggestions and input to Department staff and to staff of the America's Cup Event Authority regarding the latter's efforts to make the America's Cup events of 2012 and 2013 models of environmental sustainability.

Major accomplishments of the Commission in 2012

In 2012, the Commission's major accomplishments included:

- Supporting the endangered Pacific Leatherback as the Official Marine Reptile of California. The California State Assembly voted unanimously to pass the Bill (AB 1776) to designate the endangered Pacific Leatherback as California's official state marine reptile and to declare October 15 every year as Leatherback Conservation Day.
- Adopting a Resolution urging Congress to permanently establish parity between the parking and mass transit/vanpool portions of the Employee Transportation Benefit.
- Adopting a Resolution commending the Port of San Francisco for passage of their Zero Waste Events and Activities Policy.
- Adopting a Resolution supporting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's use of the Clean Air Act to reduce carbon in our atmosphere. The San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted a Resolution in support of reducing greenhouse gas pollution under the Clean Air Act.
- Adopting a Resolution supporting the proposed expansion of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary to the Golden Gate Bridge and into San Francisco Bay.
- Providing feedback to the America's Cup Event Authority, particularly on its Sustainability and Zero Waste Plans. Both the Policy Committee and the Commission provided this feedback, and in addition, provided opportunities for members of the public to provide comments on these plans and other actions that need to be taken to ensure that the America's Cup events held in San Francisco in 2012 and 2013 are truly environmentally responsible.
- Adopting a Resolution in support of Board of Supervisors Resolution and Ordinance Approving the CleanPowerSF Program. The San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted a Resolution in support of reducing greenhouse gas pollution under the Clean Air Act.
- Adopting a Resolution endorsing Department of the Environment grant funding recommendations for the Urban Orchards Program and San Francisco Carbon Fund program to plant trees.

Awards

Most Walkable City, WalkScore, November 7, 2012

Top City for Green Jobs, *Forbes Magazine*, May 7, 2012

VERGE 25 Award for Cities 2.0

"Best Role Model" in green building policy for the California Top-10 Award, U.S. Green Building Council.

Bay Area's "Most EV-Ready Community" (along with Sonoma County) for 2012, presented at Silicon Valley Leadership Group's annual conference on electric vehicles.

SF Clean Cities Coalition, coordinated by Department of the Environment, received two national awards from U.S. Department of Energy for top ranking among all Clean Cities Coalitions: Per Capita Petroleum Displacement and Greatest Displacement of Petroleum Using Electricity.

Oversight activities of the Commission in 2012 included:

- Approving the Department of the Environment's Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Budget on January 24, 2012.
- Adopting a Revised Reduced Risk Pesticides list for 2012. On January 24, 2012, the Commission approved this list as required by Environment Code Chapter 2, Section 203, Ordinance 115-05. In so doing, the Commission and the Department help the City protect residents, visitors, City staff and the City's biodiversity from the effects of unnecessary and avoidable pesticide use.

Reviewing and providing recommendations on the San Francisco Department of the Environment's Strategic Plan Assessment and new format.

Accomplishments of Environment Commission Committee

In addition to the accomplishments referenced above, 2012 activities of the Operations Committee included:

- Reviewing and making recommendations on the Department of the Environment's office move. Office move discussions were held on location, design, process, and Eco Center priorities.
- Reviewing and providing input into funding recommendations of the Department of the Environment's staff for 2012-13 Zero Waste grants that were provided to the Commission on the Environment.
- Reviewing and providing input into the Department of the Environment's Budget for 2012-13 and 2013-14.
- Reviewing strategies and structure for the Department of the Environment's Public Outreach and Education program area and making recommendations on outreach for San Francisco's Expanded Checkout Bag Reduction Ordinance.
- Providing feedback on the importance of social media outreach and requesting ongoing updates on performance.

In addition to the accomplishments referenced above, 2012 activities of the Policy Committee included:

- Establishing Committee work priorities in the areas of the Sustainability Plan, Metrics, Climate/Renewable Energy, and Biodiversity.
- Adopting a Committee Resolution supporting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's use of the Clean Air Act to reduce carbon in our atmosphere and recommending that the Commission adopt such a Resolution.
- Recommending that the Commission adopt a Resolution to restore parity between the parking and mass transit/vanpool portions of the Employee Transportation Benefit.
- Recommending that the Commission adopt a Resolution supporting the proposed expansion of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary to the Golden Gate Bridge and into San Francisco Bay.
- Receiving updates and providing input to staff regarding the need for the City to increase its efforts to provide alternatives to single-use plastic bottles at events throughout San Francisco. The Committee also emphasized the need to restrict the sale of plastic water bottles at America's Cup events.

Other Work of the Commission in 2012

In 2012, the full Commission passed a resolution commending the service and contribution of former Commissioner Rahul Prakash.

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The Department of the Environment
City and County of San Francisco

Annual Report 2013

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Message from the Director

The San Francisco Department of the Environment is pleased to present its 2013 annual report. This report highlights the policy and program advancements that made 2013 another exciting and innovative year at the department.

We made great strides in 2013, thanks to the unwavering commitment and world-class expertise of department staff as well as support from Mayor Ed Lee, the Board of Supervisors, the Environment Commission, other City agencies as well as San Francisco businesses and residents. San Francisco remained a leader in the sustainability movement and we were able to share best practices with other municipalities around the world while learning from others, too. This report highlights our key successes in the department's program areas which include zero waste, energy efficiency, climate change & adaptation, renewable energy, toxics reduction, clean transportation and outreach and education. From helping divert over 80% of the city's waste and over 1.3 million pounds of hazardous waste from the landfill, to expanding solar energy in the city, to strengthening our EV infrastructure, to launching a new biodiversity program, it was a good year for our local environment.

As we've witnessed this year, climate change continues to be one of the most vexing and challenging issues of our time. The Department of the Environment continued our leadership in this area by partnering with a number of City agencies and key stakeholders to complete the four-year process to compile, review and document over 35 climate action strategies that will help the city meet our carbon emission reduction goals. We also created and led the SF Adapt initiative, a multi-agency effort to protect our city from the worst effects of climate change by assessing and planning for sea level rise and other impacts to the city's infrastructure and neighborhoods.

While we've made good progress on protecting our environment, we've also helped to create jobs and support the local economy. San Francisco's programs and policies continued to prove it in 2013. Through the GoSolarSF program, nearly 450 solar systems were installed throughout the city, all while supporting the burgeoning solar market and providing jobs for local workers. The department's recently launched textile reuse and recycling program is helping grow and sustain local jobs through our partnership with Goodwill Industries and I:CO. Moreover, our Energy Watch and Boiler Replacement programs continue to drive the energy efficiency market by employing local workers to replace old boilers with more efficient models. In total, our department has created or sustained over 2,000 jobs in San Francisco. This number will continue to grow as we create demand for jobs in sectors like energy efficiency and renewable energy, waste reduction, and clean transportation.

Together, we are creating a city that allows our residents to thrive while helping ensure a prosperous future. The Department of the Environment looks forward to working with local elected leaders, other City agencies, businesses, and residents to continue create the policies and programs that have earned us the title of Greenest City in North America.

Sincerely,

Melanie Nutter

Director, San Francisco Department of the Environment

Our Mission

The San Francisco Department of the Environment (SF Environment) creates visionary policies and innovative programs that promote social equity and the green economy, protect human health, and lead the way toward a sustainable future. We put our mission into action by mobilizing communities and providing the resources needed to safeguard our homes, our city, and ultimately our planet.

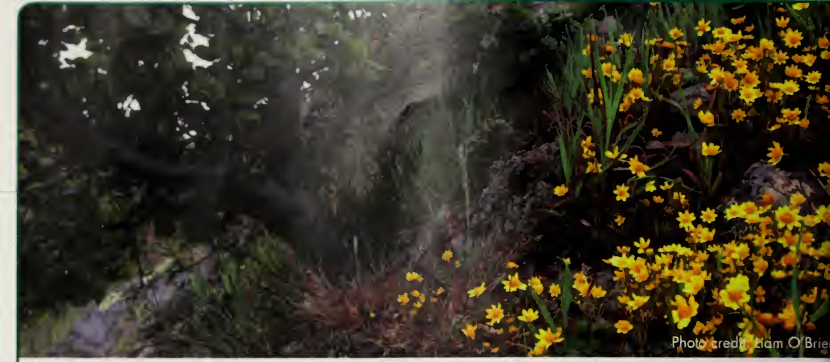
What We Do

SF Environment creates visionary policies and innovative programs to improve, enhance, and preserve San Francisco's urban and natural environment and ensure our city's long-term sustainability. By developing cutting edge yet practical wide-ranging environmental programs, fostering ground-breaking legislation, working collaboratively with key partners and educating the public on comprehensive sustainability practices, SF Environment makes it easy for everyone in San Francisco to protect their environment.

SF Environment is a one-stop resource for people who want to learn how to protect the environment locally. SF Environment is responsible for providing expert information about environmental initiatives, programs, policies and incentives to the media, City agencies, the Board of Supervisors and the public. Each year, SF Environment handles thousands of inquiries from elected officials, other City departments, businesses, and the public.

SF Environment's EcoCenter and website—**SFEnvironment.org**—have the latest departmental and Environment Commission news and archives as well as easy-to-read fact sheets about a wealth of environmental topics, many of which are in multiple languages including Spanish, Chinese, Russian and Tagalog. The website serves as a portal for a range of environmental issues and contains links to other City agencies and environmental nonprofit organizations.

Understanding that real change comes from face-to-face conversations and engagement, we work in every neighborhood in San Francisco going door-to-door and participating in street fairs, farmers' markets, concerts and other events, in an effort to get information on environmental protection out to the people who want and need it most.



Biodiversity

SF Environment's newly launched Biodiversity program is committed to protecting and restoring the biodiversity, habitats and integrity of our city's natural ecosystems, its wildlands and the urban environment, and to connecting San Franciscans to their nearby nature.

The Biodiversity program preserves and restores existing open space and natural areas, increases open space, and promotes corridors and green spaces in the urban environment for wildlife habitat. It also aims to advance eco-literacy by increasing participation of local ecological and natural areas stewardship groups and supports the citywide network of these organizations. The program develops authoritative and model policies supporting ecological restoration, biodiversity, and integration of nature in the built environment, acting as a leader in urban biodiversity conservation efforts.

Our Senior Biodiversity Coordinator works closely with SF Environment staff, all other relevant City Departments such as Recreation and Parks, the Public Utilities Commission, Planning and Public Works, and other jurisdictions, to transform the relationship of the City and County and its citizens to the indigenous nature of the Franciscan Bioregion, helping unify the City's management of San Francisco's biodiversity.

Photo credit: David Assmann

Accomplishments

- Facilitated an interagency biodiversity working group in order to co-construct, unify and promulgate nature conservation best practices across all City departments.

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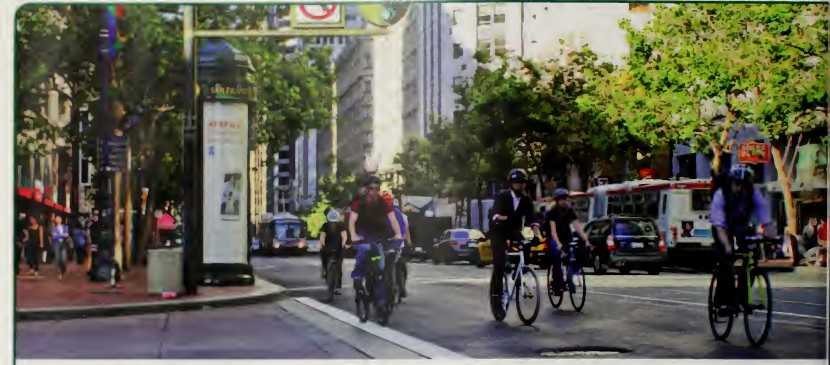
Biodiversity Accomplishments, continued

- Developed program vision, goals, objectives and a proposed projects work plan.
- Secured $70,000 in private foundation funding for the biodiversity program.
- Planned and executed several public events including a Biodiversity Launch, Biodiversity Lunch, and a Biodiversity Summit to engage partners, key stakeholders, the public and funders in our vision and goals.
- Provided key biodiversity policies for several City plans, including Green Connections, Urban Forest Plan, the Recreation and Open Space Element of the General Plan.
- Produced a municipal biodiversity survey for distribution to hundreds of world cities.
- Assembled a database of best practices and urban biodiversity plans around the world.
- Leads an Urban Sustainability Directors Network(USDN) biodiversity working group

Photo credit: David Assmann

Photo credit: Liam O'Brien

Photo credit: Liam O'Brien



Clean Transportation

The Clean Transportation Program envisions a San Francisco where car ownership is the exception rather than the rule, and where convenient, carbon-free mobility options are readily available and regularly used by residents, commuters and visitors. As a step toward that vision, the City has set a goal for 50% of all travel to be made by sustainable modes by 2017. This primarily means travel in modes other than in "drive-alone" personal vehicles.

Our programs work towards achieving this goal by promoting clean transportation systems and choices that reduce congestion, improve safety for all modes of mobility, enhance air quality and encourage healthy travel.

Accomplishments

- Worked with 3,000 businesses that have a commuter benefits program for employees, 40% of which implemented a program due to the Commuter Benefits Ordinance.
- Assisted over 3,800 City and County of San Francisco employees who are utilizing the Pre-Tax Commuter Benefits program, saving City employees almost $1 million ($925,437) and saving the City over a quarter million dollars ($229,508) this year.

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Clean Transportation Accomplishments, continued...

- Worked with City departments to implement the Healthy Air and Clean Transportation Ordinance (HACTO), including executing and reporting of Transit-First policies by all departments, administering a clean vehicle purchasing process, and implementing fleet reduction requirements that resulted in removing approximately 100 vehicles from City fleets.
- Completed the installation of 86 public electric vehicle charging stations in 21 City-owned garages and parking lots, including 5 charging stations for an EV carsharing pod at Kezar Stadium.
- Completed a state-funded demonstration project that installed 78 electric vehicle charging stations for residents at 34 multifamily buildings in San Francisco.
- Coordinated the implementation of Mayor's Biodiesel Executive Directive; in the past year, 99% of the diesel used by the City's fleet was biodiesel (81% was B20, and 18% was B5).
- Distributed an additional 32 CityCycle bicycles for City employees to use for official City business. Through this program City employees avoided using 1,360 gasoline gallon equivalents annually, reducing costs of participating departments by $4,366 and CO_2 emissions by 35,467 lbs.
- Signed up nearly 700 (699) commuters into the 511 Rideshare system, an interactive, on-demand system that helps Bay Area residents find carpools, vanpools or bicycle partners.
- Supported enrollment of 500 businesses in the Emergency Ride Home Program, representing 90,000 commuters.
- Launched an outreach campaign for San Francisco United School District families for the SchoolPool program, which resulted in a 40% increase in registrations for the program. 615 families were registered for this free online matching program that helps families find other families to walk, bike, take transit, or carpool with to school.
- Co-hosted Charge Across Town's "EV Week", an electric transportation community education event that resulted in more than 1,000 consumer test-drives in EVs in San Francisco, Palo Alto and San Jose.

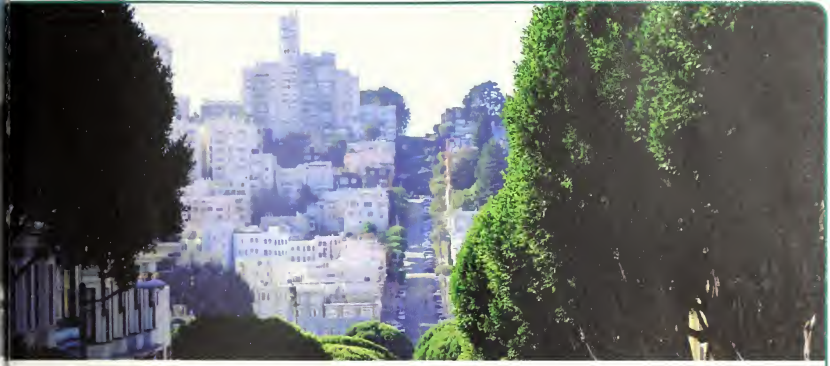
Climate Change

Climate change is the most pressing environmental issue of the 21st century. SF Environment is committed to developing and implementing policies and practices that protect our residents, businesses and visitors from the worst impacts of climate change. Since climate change is a complex issue, SF Environment works with experts and other City agencies to develop effective strategies to reduce emissions.

Consistent with the scientific community's recommendations to reduce emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050 to stabilize our climate system, San Francisco has officially adopted ambitious emission reduction goals, including 20% reduction below 1990 levels for 2012, 25% by 2017, 40% by 2025 and 80% by 2050.

Accomplishments

- Performed the carbon inventory for municipal operations for 2012 and provided departmental data to all departments. The City's operational carbon footprint was reduced by 12% in 2012 from the baseline year of 2005.
- Facilitated and secured reports from 54 city agencies and departments on their carbon reduction and sustainability efforts. All reports were scored and returned with comments. Held three of the six monthly training meetings for FY 2013-2014.
- Completed the 2013 update to the Climate Action Strategy identifying 35 strategies to reduce more than two million metric tons of carbon annually. The key strategy achieving almost half of the reductions is achieving a 100% renewable electricity supply. The document will be released in February 2014.
- Initiated the 2012 citywide community carbon emissions inventory that will be completed in summer of 2014 and verified in fall of 2014.
- Launched SFAdapt, the multi-departmental effort charged with investigating and collaborating on climate adaptation issues for the city. The first priority is to identify capital project needs. To do this, the group developed a matrix of City department adaptation efforts andorganized subcommittees on sea level rise, heat and health, and energy assurance.
- Participated in the creation of the City's Energy Assurance Plan, integrating renewable energy and energy efficiency into the plan.
- Participated in the update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, incorporating climate adaptation and carbon reduction strategies from the updated Climate Action Strategy.



The San Francisco Carbon Fund

The SF Carbon Fund provides the opportunity for conferences and conventions to mitigate the green house gas emissions generated by their events by investing in the San Francisco Carbon Fund. In keeping with its goal to serve as a model of environmental innovation, since July 2009, the City and County of San Francisco has levied an innovative carbon fee on municipal airline travel to support the SF Carbon Fund.

This innovative program invests money from activities that produce greenhouse gas pollution into local projects that reduce emissions and deliver other environmental benefits within the City and County of San Francisco. The SF Carbon Fund differs dramatically from existing carbon-offset programs in that it supports local projects as opposed to projects implemented far away from where greenhouse gas pollution is created. All projects use widely accepted protocols to estimate carbon savings.

The SF Carbon Fund awards grants and contracts for local projects that mitigate carbon and ultimately improve San Francisco's natural infrastructure and enhance the quality of the living environment.

Accomplishments

- Organized initial round of grants and received 12 number of proposals from community organizations with requests totaling $500,000.
- Awarded $223,000 to nine projects to local community organizations to do carbon emissions sequestration and mitigations through greening and tree planting in San Francisco neighborhoods.
- Received additional $23,000 to invest in carbon fund projects from a conference sponsor to help mitigate the emissions related to the conference.

Adaptation

The Department of the Environment, in partnership with the Public Utilities Commission and the Planning Department, convened SFAdapt, an inter-agency Climate Adaptation Working Group. Participating agencies include the City Administrator's Office, the Port, the San Francisco International Airport, the Department of Public Works, the Municipal Transportation Association, the Department of Public Health, and the Department of Recreation and Parks among others. The working group is currently focusing on the City's most imminent adaptation concerns: sea level rise along Ocean Beach and all shores, flooding from storm surges and extreme rain events, an increased likelihood of extreme heat, and decreased fog that supports the region's iconic redwoods and local ecosystems. The goal is to identify the most at-risk infrastructure in the city to inform the Capital planning process for future investments in making San Francisco more resilient. The Department of the Environment in collaboration with other agencies will also be helping to coordinate a community engagement process in our most vulnerable communities to ensure that local residents are prepared for the impacts of climate change.

Smart Cities

The Department of the Environment is focusing on reducing emissions from buildings and transportation, the city's two largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions. Increasingly, technological advances are helping find new and innovative ways to reduce emissions from these sectors. Throughout the past two years, the department has served as the go-to resource for information about how San Francisco is using smart technologies to reduce emissions from the building and transportation sectors, increase efficiency of city operations, and engage local communities. In 2013, San Francisco was showcased as a smart city at local, national and international conferences and through interviews with researchers and the media. Additionally, the department led a Smart City Working Group through the Urban Sustainability Directors Network to help cities across North America build infrastructure to make their cities smarter.

Photo by Luminalt

Energy

Since over 50% of the City's greenhouse gas emissions come from buildings, SF Environment's Energy program targets energy use in private sector buildings; both commercial and residential. The primary goal is to reduce energy use in these buildings through efficiency, and to install renewable resources, all in an effort to achieve as close to zero net energy buildings, or neighborhoods, as possible.

SF Environment has made great strides establishing a highly effective energy efficiency program. Energy Watch, is one of the largest city-run energy efficiency programs in California, funded by PG&E ratepayers, serving small business, multifamily, and commercial buildings- approximately 1000 customers annually. Bay Regional Energy Network, also ratepayer funded, serves multifamily and single family customers while also developing financing services and providing training and researching methods to improve compliance with energy codes. Unfortunately, the start of the programs for the 2013-14 cycle was delayed four to seven months due to the decision making processes at the CA Public Utilities Commission that oversees all ratepayer funded programs. Staff is working hard to catch up.

Accomplishments

- Assisted 586 businesses and multifamily properties with through the Energy Watch program resulting in over $1.3 million in utility savings and over 3,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide reduction. $1.8 million dollars of incentives were given out in 2013.
- Launched BayREN multifamily program that already has projects underway to meet 80% of the goal to have 1200 units retrofitted for energy efficiency.
- Completed US Department of Energy SunShot Rooftop Solar Challenge grant to reduce the soft costs of solar installations through adoption of best practices for permitting, interconnection, and financing. Documented and shared best practices on solar permitting, PACE financing, and collaborative purchasing with other cities and regions; completed reports on solar access and community solar; and worked with PG&E to document the virtual net metering process and provide training to solar installers on how to use the program to bring solar to multifamily properties.

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Energy Accomplishments, continued

- Supported the installation of 447 rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) systems across the city, totaling over 4 MW of capacity, through public education (including through the SF Energy Map), outreach to target sectors including small businesses and multi-family buildings, technical assistance to property owners, and group purchasing, bringing the number of solar installations in San Francisco to over 4,000, totaling 25.8 MW of capacity. As of August 31, 2013, San Francisco has:
  - 4,024 Solar PV systems installed
  - 25.8MW (DC) Installed PV Capacity
    - Residential: 3,802 systems; 11.5 MW (DC)
      - In 2013: 427 systems; 1.57 MW (DC)
    - Commercial/Nonprofit: 209 systems; 6.9MW (DC)
      - In 2013: 19 systems; 2.47 MW (DC)
    - Municipal: 13 systems; 7.4 MW (DC)
      - In 2013: 1 systems; 0.03 MW (DC)

  Estimated Energy produced: 35,114 MWh/yr

  Estimated Annual bill savings: $7.01 million

  Estimated Annual CO_2 reduction: 7,088 metric tons
- Implemented SF SunShares, an employee group purchasing program, with employees and retirees of the City & County of San Francisco as well as participating members of the Business Council on Climate Change, including PG&E, UCSF, Blue Shield of California, and Genentech. Through the program, achieved installed cost reductions of over 20% (at $3.80/W), enrolled 875 participants to receive free solar site assessments, and ultimately had 105 participants install solar on their homes, increasing solar capacity in the Bay Area by 466 kW.
- Worked with PG&E to help market the CSI-Thermal program to multi-family and commercial properties in San Francisco. As a result 96 solar water heating systems (43,864 sq ft of solar collectors) have been installed or began development in San Francisco since the California Solar Initiative (CSI) – Thermal incentive went into effect in 2010. These installations represent $6.44 million in private investment in local renewable energy, including $2.4 million in CSI-Thermal incentives, and will save 150,551 therms of natural gas every year, and 918 metric tons of CO_2 emissions per year.
- SF Environment took over leadership of the San Francisco Solar Task Force, and hosted two task force meetings this year to discuss changes to the Go Solar SF incentive, opportunities to increase use of Virtual Net Metering for multifamily properties in the city, provide updates on community choice aggregation and PACE financing, and identify other opportunities for the city to work with industry and other community stakeholders to support solar market development.
- Promoted the 100% renewable energy goal recommended by the Mayor's Renewable Energy Taskforce in 2012.
- Developed a San Francisco Local Energy Assurance Strategy with Capital Planning and support from the California Energy Commission, laying out a plan to increase resiliency during emergencies and speed recovery through better preparedness and increased use of renewable energy, energy storage, and microgrids.
- Supported the America's Cup, SF Port, and Randall Museum in developing small wind pilot projects.
- Successfully applied to the California Energy Commission to receive Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) grant to study renewable energy integration at the community scale, particularly in existing neighborhoods with multiple property owners. The study is looking at opportunities to integrate solar and other renewable energy and storage technologies into the Central SoMa Eco-District, as well as energy efficiency and district heating and cooling.

Photo credit: Grid Alternati

Green Building

The overarching goal of the Green Building program is to ensure that all new and existing buildings in San Francisco are built and operated according to third-party verified standards such as LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) GreenPoint Rated, or EnergyStar. We serve as the technical resource for standards setting and project development, facilitate and stimulate ongoing training for a wide range of building professionals, educate and build support for green building policies with the public, tenants, and building owners, and administer the only mandatory energy benchmark & audit program in California.

Accomplishments

- Expanded bond financing for GreenFinanceSF, the city's commercial PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) program to include seismic retrofits of soft-story multi-unit buildings.
- Working to re-start the PACE program for residential buildings.

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Green Building Accomplishments, continued

- Completed and tracked energy benchmarking for 878 private sector buildings, totaling 109 million square feet through the Existing Commercial Buildings Energy Performance Ordinance (ECB), resulting in compliance of over 82% of the private sector stock of buildings 50,000 ft2 and larger.
- The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission published the *2012 Energy Benchmark Report for San Francisco Municipal Buildings*, documenting the energy performance of nearly 450 public buildings totaling 30 million square feet.
- Completed more than 380 energy audits of private sector buildings based on ECB requirement. Early results from the first 120 audit reports submitted for buildings 50,000 ft2 and larger indicated that building owners have invested $3 million in energy efficiency retrofits, resulting in a net present value of $8.9 million in energy savings. The net present value of energy efficiency opportunities uncovered but not yet realized in this initial tranche of audits is nearly $36 million.
- Enrolled with PG&E in an "Energy Data Accelerator" at the invitation of the White House, where PG&E will make it easier for building owners to obtain energy use data for benchmarking.
- Supported the US Department of Energy State & Local Energy Efficiency Action Network's Existing Commercial Buildings Working Group (SEE-Action Network) to help other cities and states replicate San Francisco's policy leadership. Contributed to numerous tools to help San Francisco and other communities harness data to accelerate market transformation, including guides to: Benchmark Policy Design & Audit Policy Design (with sample language from Environment Code Chapter 20), guidance for utility regulators to improve data access, and Benchmarking Data Analysis Guide.
- Participated in development of common data standards and software to manage benchmarking programs.
- Completed LEED certification for an additional 5 municipal construction projects (including 2 LEED Platinum certifications) bringing the total to 3.6 million square feet of LEED certified municipal properties.
- Co-organized successful Central Corridor EcoDistricts Formation Task Force (with SF Planning Department) to explore options for organizational structures, potential pilot projects, and financing and funding strategies for ongoing EcoDistrict work in the area. Report and recommendations were included in Central Corridor Area Plan document released in November 2013.
- Updated the San Francisco Green Building Code in collaboration with the Department of Building Inspection to align with CalGreen (2013), including drafting code, cost-effectiveness analysis, and revisions to regulations.
- Raised the minimum qualification for Priority Permit for Green Building Projects to LEED Platinum certification (formerly LEED Gold) in collaboration with the Planning Department.

Eco-Districts

Acted as a leading supporter and participant in the local Eco-Districts movement. In partnership with the SF Planning Department, co-organized successful Central Corridor Eco-Districts Formation Task Force to explore options for organizational structures, potential pilot projects, and financing and funding strategies for ongoing Eco-District work in the area. Report and recommendations were included in Central Corridor Area Plan document released in November 2013. Successfully applied to the California Energy Commission to receive Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) grant to look at opportunities to integrate solar and other renewable energy and storage technologies into the Central Corridor Eco-District, as well as energy efficiency and district heating and cooling.

The America's Cup

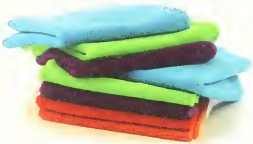
From the initial commitment through the finals, the America's Cup made sustainability a priority. The Department of the Environment worked closely with the America's Cup Event Authority and the Environmental Council to develop the America's Cup Sustainability Plan and Zero Waste Plan. The 2013 America's Cup reported that the event was the first America's Cup to be carbon neutral, thanks to their robust carbon management strategy to measure, reduce, and compensate for event emissions. No single-use plastics were used; visitors were encouraged to bring their own reusable bottles and vendors provided compostable service ware. The event also had an 85% landfill diversion rate from America's Cup Park and America's Cup Village spectator venues, staying true to our City's commitment to zero waste.

Environmental Justice

SF Environment's Environmental Justice program works to promote environmental sustainability and economic opportunities in the city's low-income neighborhoods. We provide grant assistance and technical support to nonprofit groups to help prepare workers for employment in the city's green economy. Since 2001, the Environmental Justice Program has granted more than $11 million to community-based organizations and nonprofit groups dedicated to promoting renewable energy, energy conservation and efficiency, food security, air quality and environmental justice in San Francisco's Bayview Hunters Point and Potrero neighborhoods.

Accomplishments

- Completed a Community Action Plan for the San Francisco Healthy Homes Project that involved working with over 400 residents in southeast San Francisco to assess and address health inequalities for families. This program is working with families to promote integrated pest management (IPM) and healthy cleaning supplies and reduce pesticide use.
- Developed partnerships with the Mayor's Office and nonprofit community service providers at public housing sites to develop training curriculum for peer-to-peer outreach.
- Launched a brownfield site assessment project in the Southeast community of Bayview Hunters Point with the goal of developing the Blue Greenway, a 13-mile waterfront corridor that will improve access to green space in this underserved community.



Toxics Reduction

San Francisco was the first city in the country to adopt the Precautionary Principle as a foundation for its environmental and public health policies, requiring City government to seek out the safest alternatives when making choices ranging from products and services to building designs and landscape management. The Toxics Reduction Program implements the Precautionary Principle most directly through its programs in green purchasing, green business, and integrated pest management. Program staff are also actively involved in regional, national and international policy efforts to reduce toxic pollution and exposures in the San Francisco area.

The toxics program coordinates a wide-range of hazardous waste collection and recycling services for unwanted or expired hazardous household products. The toxics program also advocates producer responsibility, requiring manufacturers to become financially responsible for collection and recycling of their products, through supporting product stewardship legislation at the local, state and federal levels.

Accomplishments

- Coordinated collection of over 555 tons (1,251,300 pounds) of hazardous waste from San Francisco residents.
- Supported 31 retail and waterfront used motor oil drop-off sites which together collected almost 35,000 gallons of used motor oil and over 10,000 used oil filters for recycling.

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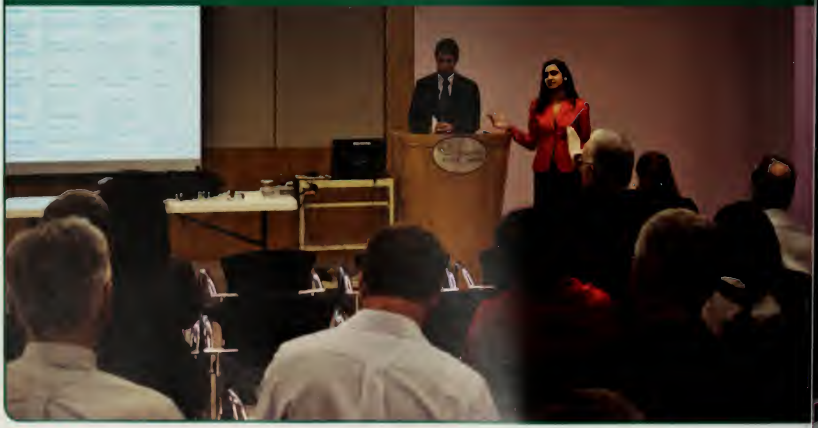
Toxics Reduction Accomplishments, continued

- Assisted in the tracking and collection of 104,682 pounds of hazardous waste from businesses
- Assisted, trained and recognized 14 nail salons through SF's Healthy Nail Salon program,a program to reduce the exposure of workers and customers to toxic chemicals.Eight additional nail salons are on track to complete the program by June of 2014.
- Produced and released the Janitorial Green Cleaning curriculum to support best greening practices for janitorial services in San Francisco. Trained 6 Custodial Companies in San Francisco's Green Cleaning pilot program which included training all custodial staff in the green cleaning curriculum, evaluating safer cleaning products and implementing safer cleaning practices. 3 of these companies have been recognized by the SF Green Business Program, and 2 additional custodial companies will complete the SF Green Business program by early 2014.
- Assisted 56 businesses to adopt environmental practices that are sustainable as well as profitable. through the SF Green Business program
- Received extension of industry funding for the San Francisco Safe Medicine Disposal Pilot program and collected over 8 tons (16,648 pounds) of unwanted and expired medicine through 13 independent pharmacies, 10 police stations, and one community center.
- Rolled out the Pest Prevention by Design manual; the first of its kind in the country. The manual outlines opportunities for pest prevention in building design, and is being developed into a pilot credit for the US Green Building Council.
- Documented an 84% reduction in pesticide use on City properties since the beginning of San Francisco's Integrated Pest Management Program.
- Provided environmental specifications, contract support, and information resources on green purchasing, with the result that 82% of City departments' purchases were 'green' in the targeted categories of computers, janitorial cleaners and papers, and office supplies.



Urban Forestry

SF Environment's Urban Forest program promotes a healthier, sustainable urban forest in San Francisco by implementing the Urban Forestry Council Ordinance, providing education programs and information on tree management, and developing innovative funding strategies for the City's urban forest. Additionally, the program develops legislation and serves as an information hub to other agencies and the general public to improve the health of the urban forest and increase its benefits to urban residents.

Urban Agriculture

SF Environment's Urban Forest program promotes a healthier, sustainable urban forest in San Francisco by implementing the Urban Forestry Council Ordinance, providing education programs and information on tree management, and developing innovative funding strategies for the City's urban forest. Additionally, the program develops legislation and serves as an information hub to other agencies and the general public to improve the health of the urban forest and increase its benefits to urban residents.

Accomplishments

Urban Forestry

- Published the Annual Urban Forest report, which includes data on all major forestry manager activities and budgets for fiscal year 2012-2013.
- Updated the List of Recommended Street Trees and coordinated the publication of a pamphlet on trees selection and planting.
- Completed a two-year strategic plan and work plan with the Urban Forestry Council.
- Expanded the Urban Orchards program and developed a program partnership with Friends of the Urban Forest to plant 200 publicly accessible fruit trees as part of the SF Carbon Fund grant.

Urban Agriculture

- Supported the development and adoption of the California Cottage Food Law, which supports urban farms by allowing local growers to produce value-added products.
- Supported the development and adoption of the California Urban Agriculture Incentives Zoning Act.
- Partnered with the Recreation & Park Department to host San Francisco's first Community Garden Forum.
- Began a quarterly garden newsletter pilot program, the Compost, which will become a standard joint program between Recreation and Park Department and SF Environment starting in 2014.

Zero Waste

The Zero Waste program has instituted a wide array of policies and convenient services to achieve the City's goal of zero waste by 2020. The Zero Waste program encourages all sectors (municipal, commercial and residential) to comply with the City's zero waste policies and use services properly. The program's primary focus is securing citywide compliance with the Mandatory Recycling and Composting Ordinance. Financial incentives for generators and service providers are continually updated to enhance waste diversion opportunities. The program promotes waste prevention and environmentally preferable purchasing. Zero Waste Program staff also continue to advocate for local and state legislation increasing consumer and producer responsibility.

Accomplishments

- Trained another 1,200 City government employees on zero waste.
- Secured compliance with the Mandatory Recycling and Composting Ordinance from 1,600 more commercial accounts.
- Brought composting and recycling collection to over 8,500 apartment buildings, bringing over 90% of the 8,600 apartment buildings in San Francisco to compliance.Successfully implemented the expanded checkout bag ordinance at 14,000 retail and food establishments. In October and November of 2013, the Department conducted a field survey of approximately 3,000 food and retail establishments and determined that 82% were fully compliant with the Ordinance.
- Registered 55 new debris transporters and a new facility under Construction and Demolition Debris Recovery Ordinance.
- Awarded more than $800,000 to ten local organizations to help further San Francisco's goal of achieving zero waste by the year 2020. From community composting workshops, to implementing composting and recycling at local events, to collecting textile clothing, these organizations exemplify the diverse strategies we can use to achieve zero waste. (see grantmaking section for more information).
- Launched a citywide Zero Waste Textile Initiative in partnership with clothing retailers, nonprofits and for profits to expand textile collection and reduce the 20,000 tons currently going to landfill each year in San Francisco.

Outreach and Education

SF Environment's outreach and education program supports the goals and services of all department programs by providing clear, concise, and objective information about policies and initiatives. SF Environment provides environmental educational resources to a wide variety of San Francisco constituencies, and strives to reach the diverse communities of San Francisco in strategic and thoughtful ways.

2013 was a landmark year for integrated outreach campaigns.

Accomplishments

- Developed and implemented Zero Waste campaigns in the Richmond and Bayview neighborhoods bringing together all outreach tactics (from advertising to grassroots and school education) in a coordinated fashion. These successful campaigns have positively influenced the way our department conducts all outreach.
- Coordinated 665 active members of SF Environment's volunteer team, participated in 191 community events in 2013, and supported several other special projects. Projects included supporting the zero waste Richmond campaign, several beach cleanup days, the planting of 200 fruit trees with Friends of the Urban Forest, building a replica of an ocean wave made of 6,000 bottles to showcase World Water Day, collecting over 500 "everyday Earth Day Pledges" during Earth Month, and creating an art sculpture out of unwanted textiles representing the amount of textiles that San Francisco sends to the landfill every hour.
- Redesigned SFEnvironment.org and dramatically scaled up our digital communication, resulting in a 33% increase in pageviews from the prior fiscal year. Many campaigns have been enhanced by a robust online presence, including the Checkout Bag Ordinance (17,000+ pageviews), Commuter Benefits (27,000+ pageviews), and the Healthy Nail Salons program (3,600+ pageviews). The Checkout Bag Ordinance and Healthy Nail Salon program, along with other campaigns now also include multi-lingual content that is accessible online.
- Enhanced RecycleWhere which continues to be a go-to tool for the outreach team to help all San Francisco residents learn how to safely dispose of their waste items, from old sneakers to dead batteries and chicken bones. The tool has been included in every zero waste and toxics campaign. Searches have increased 11% since the initial launch.

Education

SF Environment's Environmental Education program serves as catalyst for change in the community, by offering award-winning projects that serve more than 225 public and private schools in San Francisco, annually reaching 20,000 students and 1,000 teachers. Our environmental education staff promotes positive behavior change that increases composting and recycling at schools, promotes water conservation and protects our water from pollution, inspires sound environmental stewardship, and helps stop litter.

Environment Now

The Environment Now green careers program prepares individuals for jobs in the green economy through a combination of classroom workshops and practical hands-on work experiences. Participants function as the department's grassroots outreach team, promoting behavior change in San Francisco's multicultural and multilingual neighborhoods. Through these grassroots efforts, Environment Now supports all SF Environment program areas, including energy conservation, zero waste, biodiversity, toxics reduction, clean transportation, and environmental justice.

Accomplishments

Environment Now

- Visited all 11 Districts and engaged with over 30,000 residents and business owners to promote SF Environment's programs. Many of these conversations were held in the Cantonese, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Russian, Tagalong and Spanish languages.
- 100% of 2013 graduates have secured living-wage jobs in the environmental field.

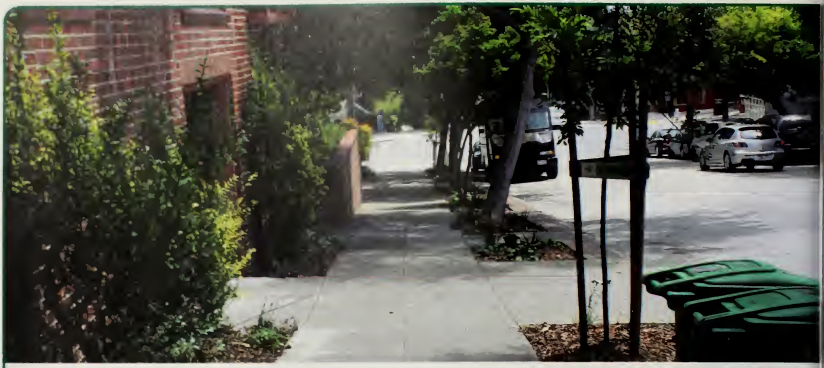
Partners

SF Environment has formal partnerships with community-based organizations, local businesses and other City departments that help us reach residents and businesses to help live a greener life. Highlighted partnerships include:

- GreenStacks partnership with the San Francisco Public Library system that offers a comprehensive environmental program that serves every neighborhood in San Francisco.
- The Business Council on Climate Change gives Bay Area businesses a forum to share best practices to reduce greenhouse gasses in both large and small businesses. It has created a successful model for climate action in the commercial and public sectors.

EcoCenter

Even though we have moved to a new site, SF Environment's EcoCenter at 1455 Market Street continues to be a thriving center for environmental resources. Since our move in early 2013, the EcoCenter has drawn more than 3500 visitors by hosting more than 20 national and international business and government delegations, two art openings, as many as 30 community groups and 8 brown bags.



Grant Making

SF Environment works with a range of community-based organizations to help achieve San Francisco's ambitious sustainability goals. Over the past eleven years, we have provided approximately $23 million in grant funding to local nonprofits throughout the city. Projects have a range of co-benefits including job creation, education, greening neighborhoods and getting valuable resources to those who need them the most. Our grantmaking programs are:

The San Francisco Carbon Fund *invests in local projects that mitigate carbon emissions and provide a range of ecosystems services. It awards grants and contracts to businesses, community-based organizations and schools for local projects that mitigate carbon and ultimately improve San Francisco's natural infrastructure and enhance the quality of the living environment. In prior funding cycles the SF Carbon Fund has made awards for biodiesel and urban forest pilot projects. In 2013, it awarded $223,000 in grants to nine projects including:*

- **AsianWeek Foundation** will partner with Quesada Gardens to create the Asian Community Green Space Project in Bayview Hunters Point. The project will return extremely hard-packed soil to a permeable state, remove invasive plant species, install smart water capture and reuse features, and introduce an edible garden and landscaping that prioritizes native plant species. It will reduce carbon emissions and storm-water runoff. Co-benefits include providing community gathering space, growing food, and engaging low-income, underserved immigrant Asian populations that are currently disconnected from the movement to green the urban environment.
- **Commodore Sloat Elementary School** will reduce the asphalt surface area of play yards on the school campus and create additional green space at Ocean Ave and Junipero Serra streets. This project will sequester carbon and reduce stormwater runoff. Co-benefits include: creating a tree stewardship program integrated with the existing gardening program, expanding the experiential component of the school curriculum in the areas of science and language arts, increasing outreach to the neighborhood community by increasing the use of the outdoor school space during non-school hours.
- **Friends of the Urban Forest** will create permeable surfaces through the installation

of sidewalk gardens and planting trees along public rights-of-way throughout the city. Projects will sequester carbon and reduce storm-water runoff by replacing concrete with climate-appropriate, drought-resistant vegetation. All projects will involve the participation of local households, small businesses owners, public schools and other City agencies. Co-benefits include improving neighborhood walkability and building community, as well as providing workforce development opportunities for San Francisco youth.

- **Gateway High School** at Geary Boulevard and Scott Street will replace a portion of the school's paved parking area to mitigate stormwater runoff. Co-benefits include youth employment to maintain the project. Grant funds will be used to leverage support for the next phase of the project—planting a community garden.
- **Golden Gate Audubon Society** will plant native coastal scrub plants and grasses to create a naturalistic sediment contour in the upland at Pier 94 in Bayview Hunters Point to sequester carbon and reduce runoff. Co-benefits include providing nesting and foraging habitat for upland birds and other animals, providing educational programming for local school groups, and providing a quiet natural location in the middle of the bustling city.
- **Nature in the City** will convert weedy and ice plant-covered public sites along 14th Avenue between Kirkham and Santiago Streets into restored upland dune habitats to retain water and sequester carbon. The project will also prevent erosion and stabilize sandy slopes. Co-benefits include connecting two isolated populations of the locally threatened Green Hairstreak butterfly, expanding the Backyard Native Nursery Network, and increasing eco-literacy and community support.
- **Ney Street Neighborhood Watch** will plant large shrubs on strip of barren, rock solid, garbage strewn land on the 700 block of Alemany Boulevard. This project will reduce carbon emissions and storm-water runoff. Co-benefits include improving the beauty and safety of the Alemany bike lane, improving neighborhood walkability and mitigating sound and air pollution from Allemany Boulevard.
- **San Francisco Parks Alliance** will create and complete additional urban park areas throughout the city. Projects will reduce carbon emissions and stormwater runoff. Co-benefits include improving neighborhood walkability and providing green community space for residents to gather.

Zero Waste: *The Zero Waste Program awards funding to nonprofit organizations whose work in reuse, recycling, and composting helps San Francisco reach its goal of zero waste by 2020. In May 2013, SF Environment awarded more than $800,000 to ten local organizations to help further San Francisco's goal of achieving zero waste by the year 2020. Cumulatively, these projects are expected to divert over 3,400 tons from the landfill over a two-year period. Projects will create green jobs and divert resources from landfill to some of San Francisco's neediest residents.*

- Boys and Girls Club of San Francisco will increase their collection of recyclables and compostables by 33% at their ten locations in San Francisco annually. They will establish composting and recycling education programs with their staff and Club members. Boys and Girls Club of San Francisco annually serves more 17,000 youth in the most challenged and under-resourced neighborhoods in the city. Co-benefits include community-wide outreach on Zero Waste to its participants and their families
- Citizen Film and Green Streets will raise public awareness about Green Streets' work to educate residents in affordable housing about recycling and composting, engage property managers, and secure new contracts. It currently diverts over 403 cubic yards per month from affordable housing properties–equivalent to over 80 tons annually. Funding will help Green Streets secure new contracts with other affordable housing sites to increase diversion. Co-benefits include employing 16 public housing residents in three San Francisco affordable housing communities.
- Garden for the Environment will continue to offer free backyard composting and vermicomposting workshops and conduct

the Gardening Composting Educator Training. Workshops will ensure that residents continue to divert organic material from the landfill through backyard composting and use of Recology's curbside composting system. This program will keep organic material out of the landfill and train the next generation of compost educators.

- Goodwill and the SF Housing Foundation will position up to 22 collection bins for textile collection, including clothing and apparel, in areas of San Francisco where donation sites are currently absent. Sites will include the Recreation and Parks Department, libraries, and other community facilities; as well in lobbies and garages of multi-tenant complexes. Co-benefits include re-distributing valuable resources that would otherwise go to the landfill.
- San Francisco Food Bank will expand its Local Fresh Grocery Rescue program to reduce the amount of edible food in San Francisco's waste stream and redirect that food to low-income residents in need of food assistance. The program will be focused on capturing food from deli counters and other quickly perishable items from grocery stores throughout San Francisco.
- San Francisco City College will increase their diversion of waste from San Francisco's landfill and reduce the college's overall trash bill by placing recycling/compost/landfill bins in one of their underserved campuses.
- San Francisco Clean City Coalition will continue to operate a wood furniture refurbishing and pallet repair program that diverts reusable materials from the landfill. It will capture broken and unbroken pallets, repair them if necessary, and sell them to Goodwill. Co-benefits include supporting a free-standing green business and providing green job training where participants learn basic carpentry, furniture repair, and wood working skills.
- San Francisco Community Recyclers will continue to operate Building REsources, a reuse building materials retail yard, and Red Shovel, a glass re-use project that will divert 3,447 tons over a two year period.
- San Francisco Conservation Corps will provide greening services for events in San Francisco to increase awareness of recycling and composting among attendees, producers and Corps members. Services will include consulting with event producers to establish a recycling and composting plan, conducting recycling and composting at the event, and tracking events' diversion rates. In addition to diverting a significant amount of event waste from the city's landfill stream, the program hires and provides job training and education for low-income young adults.
- University of California, San Francisco will implement a study to consolidate and sort waste generated on campus in order to reduce overall tons of trash being sent to the landfill. Once the study has proved to lower overall refuse bills by increasing diversion, the project will be institutionalized into the University's overall operations budget. The project will include an educational component to spread awareness about recycling and composting to staff and the student body.
- Environmental Justice: Since 2001, the Environmental Justice Program has supported nonprofit organizations serving the Bayview Hunters Point and Potrero Hill neighborhoods—two areas that have historically been burdened by pollution—to help them become healthier, more sustainable communities. Projects have included solar installations on low-income homes, urban agriculture and healthy food initiatives, green job training, and many others. While the bulk of grantmaking ended in 2011, the Environmental Justice Program periodically provides grants through its work with outside organizations such the US EPA.

Funding Partners and Sponsors

SF Environment relies on a vast network of partners to help achieve our City's environmental goals and help all San Franciscans become stewards of our urban environment. As we do not receive any funds from the City's General Fund, we rely on fundraising to support many of our programs and help the city achieve its sustainability goals. We receive grants from foundations and other government entities and provide opportunities for businesses and others to support SF Environment and be recognized for their environmental leadership. Over the years, SF Environment sponsors have participated in the Mayor's Annual Earth Day Breakfast, EcoCenter Art Openings, the *Green Business Awards Ceremony*, the *Green and Blue Awards*, and quarterly SF Environment Open Houses.

This past year, local, national and international companies came together to support the renovation and move to our new offices and EcoCenter at 1455 Market Street.

2013 Supporters

Government Grants

- Altamont Education Advisory Board
- Bay Area Air Quality Management District
- Cal Recycles
- California Energy Commission
- California Public Utilities Commission
- US Department of Energy Clean Cities Coalition
- US Department of Energy Sunshot
- US Environmental Protection Agency

Foundation Grants

- Kresge Foundation
- The Campbell Foundation
- Lisa and Douglas Goldman Fund
- San Francisco Foundation
- SEED Fund
- The Summit Foundation
- Urban Sustainability Directors Network

Corporate

1455 Market EcoCenter Sponsors

- ***Green***
  CH2MHILL
  Finelite
  Lutron

- ***Platinum***
  Honeywell
  Lucid
  Rana Creek
  Webcor

- ***Silver***
  AAA Flag and Banner
  Global Tap
  Johnsonite
  Philips Electronics
  Regenerative Network

- ***Copper***
  Builders Resources
  Bruce Callander Family
  Fireclay Tile
  Green Energy Innovations
  Laborer International Union of North America
  Sims Metal Management
  UpSolar

2013 Earth Day Breakfast Sponsors

AT&T
Blue Shield of California
CitiBank
Platinum Advisors
Salesforce
The Golden State Warriors
United Airlines
Wells Fargo

Other Event Sponsors

Alcatraz Cruises
Aquarium of the Bay
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Cole Hardware
Exploratorium
House of Air
Green Apple Books and Music
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Jamber
Jericho Canyon Vineyard
J&V CATERING
Locally Grown Weddings
Markham Vineyards
McCalls Catering
Pacific Heights Cleaners
Peet's Coffee
Peju Winery
Real Food Company
The Hess Collection
ThirstyBear Brewing Company
Twenty Five Lusk

Commision on the Environment

The mission of the Commission on the Environment is to improve, enhance, and preserve the environment and to promote San Francisco's long-term environmental sustainability as set forth in Section 4.118 of the City Charter. The Commission on the Environment sets policy for the Department of the Environment and advises the Mayor, Board of Supervisors, and other City departments on environmental matters. Appointed by the Mayor, the seven-member commission develops policies and programs on a wide range of environmental topics including zero waste, toxics reduction, environmental justice, clean air, energy efficiency, green building, habitat restoration, commute alternatives, greenhouse gas reduction, green jobs, biodiversity, and the city's urban forest. The Commission's office is located at 1455 Market Street, 12th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103.

Commission Membership

Joshua Arce, President; Angelo King, Vice President and Operations Committee Chair; Ruth Gravanis (Policy Committee); Nicholas Josefowitz (Policy Committee); Heather Stephenson (Operations Committee) Johanna Wald (Policy Committee Chair); Sarah Wan (Operations Committee).

Commissioners Leaving Office in 2013

Special thanks to Commissioner Alan Mok who served on the Commission from March 7, 2003 to January 15, 2008. Following his reappointment on May 18, 2009, he served until July 11, 2013. Commissioner Mok also served as the Chair and as a member of the Operations Committee.

Meetings

All meetings of the Commission on the Environment and its committees are open to the public. The full Commission meets bimonthly on the fourth Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. in January, March, May, July, September and November. Meetings are held at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place, Room 416, in the City and County of San Francisco unless otherwise noted.

The Commission's Policy Committee meets monthly on the second Monday at 5:00 p.m. with the exception of the fourth Monday in October. Meetings are held at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place, Room 421 in the City and County of San Francisco unless otherwise noted.

The Commission's Operations Committee meets quarterly on the second Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. in February, May, August and November. Meetings are held at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place, Room 421 in the City and County of San Francisco unless otherwise noted.

Background on the Commission

In carrying out its mission, the Commission and its two committees engage in three general types of activities: 1) providing oversight of and strategic advice on the work of the Department of the Environment and its staff; 2) generating and reviewing new policies, practices and ideas relating to sustainability for consideration by the staff, the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors and by other agencies as relevant; and 3) providing public outreach and education. The Commission carries out its responsibilities principally by reviewing and commenting on oral and written presentations from the staff at both full Commission meetings and at committee meetings.

The Commission is directly responsible for a number of San Francisco's most well known environmental initiatives including its ban on City purchase of single-serve water bottles and its ground-breaking ordinance on check-out bags, which was recently upheld by a second state court, the 1st District Court of Appeals, in response to a legal challenge from a plastic bag industry-supported organization. Other major initiatives that the Commission has spearheaded include the Department's green jobs program, its Climate Action Strategy, and the City's mandatory composting requirement. As the result of these initiatives, in 2013:

- San Francisco's landfill diversion rate is 80%, making it #1 in the country for a city our size.
- The expanded checkout bag ordinance was successfully implemented at 14,000 retail and food establishments.
- 69 plastic bag ordinances have been adopted in the state of California, covering a total of 90 cities or counties.
- Composting and recycling collection have essentially been brought to all of the 8,600 apartment buildings in San Francisco, in addition to the City's other residential buildings.
- San Francisco's greenhouse gas emissions are nearly 14.5% below 1990 levels.
- Through the GoSolarSF program, 237 new solar systems were installed in the city, including 74 low-income residential installments, totaling 970.4 kW capacity
- The 2013 America's Cup reported that the event was carbon neutral, used no single-use plastic bags, and had an 85% landfill diversion rate from America's Cup Park and America's Cup Village spectator venues.

Major accomplishments of the Commission in 2013

In 2013, the Commission's major accomplishments included:

- Adopting a Resolution approving the Department of the Environment's Integrated Pest Management 2013 Reduced Risk Pesticide List.
- Approval of the 2011 San Francisco Buy Green Ordinance Program for City Staff Annual Report.
- Holding a Public Hearing to Review and Adopt Regulations for the Commuter Benefits Ordinance.
- Providing a Public Forum for Numerous Discussions regarding CleanPowerSF.
- Adopting a Resolution Amending Prior Commission Resolution in support of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Expansion.
- Adopting a Correspondence Process for the Commission on the Environment.
- Approving the Publicizing of Commission on the Environment Meetings on San Francisco Government Television (SFGTV).
- Adopting a Resolution supporting the Department of the Environment's Grant for Brownfields Outreach Services.
- Adopting a Resolution supporting Assembly Bill (AB) 521 Marine Plastic Pollution Producer Responsibility.
- Adopting a Resolution supporting Department of the Environment Zero Waste Grant Award Funding Recommendations.
- Holding a Full Commission Meeting in Bayview Opera House, the first community meeting in many years.
- Adopting a Resolution commending the Laborers Local 261/City and County of San Francisco Gardeners Apprenticeship Program for graduating the program's first class of community workers.
- Adopting a Resolution in support of the Department of the Environment's grant for Brownfields outreach services.
- Providing guidance on the Department of the Environment's Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Strategic Plan and metrics, Renewable Energy Program and 100% renewable energy goal, and community outreach and engagement.
- Providing a forum for discussion of San Francisco Resilient Bayview Initiative, the Department of the Environment's Environmental Justice Grant Program, and the Environment Now and Zero Waste Campaign.
- Adopting a Resolution supporting a ban on the release of commercially raised butterflies.
- Adopting a Resolution approving Department of the Environment recommendations for San Francisco Carbon Fund Projects.

Oversight activities of the Commission in 2013 included:

- Approving the Department of the Environment's Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget on January 22, 2013.
- Adopting a Revised Reduced Risk Pesticides list for 2013. On January 22, 2013, the Commission approved this list as required by Environment Code Chapter 2, Section 203, Ordinance 115-05. In so doing, the Commission and the Department help the City protect residents, visitors, City staff and the City's biodiversity from the effects of unnecessary and avoidable pesticide use.
- Reviewing and providing recommendations on the San Francisco Department of the Environment's Strategic as well as its updated Climate Action Strategy.

Accomplishments of Environment Commission Committees

In addition to the accomplishments referenced above, 2013 activities of the Operations Committee included:

- Reviewing and providing input into the Department of the Environment's Fiscal Year 2013-14 Budget for recommendation to the Commission.
- Reviewing and providing input into the Department of the Environment's Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget and unfunded mandates.
- Reviewing and making recommendations for videotaping and publicizing Commission on the Environment meetings on San Francisco Government Public Television station.
- Reviewing and making recommendations on the process for Commission on the Environment's Community Meetings and Outreach Component.
- Reviewing and making recommendations on the City and County of San Francisco purchasing software to help the City buy green.
- Reviewing and making recommendations for the Department of the Environment's process for handling and approving grants.
- Holding a Public Hearing on Green Purchasing Regulations (Precautionary Purchasing Ordinance)

In addition to the accomplishments referenced above, 2013 activities of the Policy Committee included:

- Adopting a Committee Resolution approving proposed grant to Community Initiatives/BC3 for Workplace Electric Vehicle Charging Program.
- Adopting a Committee Resolution approving a grant award to the San Francisco Zoological Society for electric vehicle infrastructure.
- Making Recommendations on the Department of the Environment's Biodiversity Program.
- Recommending that the Commission adopt a Resolution amending Prior Resolution in support of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Expansion.
- Recommending that the Commission Adopt Resolutions (1) supporting Assembly Bill (AB) 521 (Hueso and Stone) Marine Plastic Pollution Producer Responsibility; (2) Zero Waste grant award funding recommendations; (3) supporting the Van Ness Bus Rapid Transit (VNBRT) project; (4) supporting a ban on the release of commercially raised butterflies.
- Reviewing and making recommendations on the Department of the Environment's strategic planning process.
- Providing review and guidance on (1) the Restart of GreenFinanceSF Residential Property Assessed Clean Energy Program (PACE); (2) the City and County of San Francisco Department updated Climate Action Strategy for Fiscal Year 2012-13; (3) Car Idling Reduction Campaigns; (4) Eco-Districts Type III (Eco-Neighborhood) Pilot Program; (5) the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan; (5) Product stewardship model for Increasing collection of household batteries and mercury containing lamps; and the San Francisco Transportation Plan (SFTP) and Early Action Program

Awards

- C40 City Climate Leadership Award for Solid Waste Management *City Climate Leadership Awards*
- U.S. Earth Hour Capital, *World Wildlife Fund Earth Hour City Challenge*
- Most bird-friendly city in California, *California Audubon*
- Top city for green jobs, *Forbes*
- #1 Metro in the US for clean-tech leadership, *Clean Edge*
- San Francisco's Zero Waste program & Commuter Tax Benefit policies were 2 of 15 innovative policy models recommended for New York's next mayor, NYU's *Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Affairs*
- Named Rockefeller Foundation Resilient City, *The Rockefeller Foundation*
- Ranked 2nd most walkable city, *Walkscore*
- Ranked 2nd most bikeable city, *Walkscore*
- Ranked 2nd most transit-friendly city, *Walkscore*
- Ranked #3 major city in the US for Energy Efficiency by *The American Council for an Energy-Efficiency Economy.*

SF Environment
Our home. Our city. Our planet.
A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

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